

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

20. (Currently Amended) A method for protecting the processing of sensitive information in a security module having a monolithic structure comprising at least an information processing device, a storage device for storing information capable of being processed by said processing device and at least a data bus, the security module further comprising means for checking the integrity of information, said means for checking the integrity being either a table contained in the processing device or a plurality of software program instructions of the storage device or a specific hardware circuit, wherein the transmitting of information through said data bus is secured by the method comprising at least the following steps:

[[-]]selecting a piece of sensitive information stored in the storage device addressed by the processing device;

[[-]]determining, by the means for checking the integrity, a specific condition for establishing the integrity of a datum of said sensitive information to be transmitted on said data bus;

[[-]]transferring reading by the processing device of said a datum of said sensitive information ~~transmitted~~ from the storage device to the processing device, on said data bus;

[[-]]~~processing said datum and verifying~~ executing a logic verification operation on all bits of said datum which is transmitted ~~transferred~~ on said data bus, ~~by said processing device or by said means for checking the integrity, of information, during the processing for verifying that said specific condition is satisfied; and~~

[[-]]disabling the processing of said sensitive information by the processing device if the specific condition is not satisfied.

21. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 20, wherein said ~~information~~ datum of said sensitive information is an operation code datum read in the storage device, ~~all of the types of~~ said operation code datum being recognized ~~contained in said [[a]] table contained in the processing device having a content~~ ~~determined during the manufacture of the security module~~, said specific condition for ~~the integrity of the information being~~ satisfied if said operation code datum is equal to a valid operation code datum of the table and said specific condition is not satisfied at least if one or more bits of the operation code datum data composed by bits are all equal to a same binary value ~~are non valid operation code data of the table~~.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 20, wherein said means for checking the integrity ~~of information comprises a logic comparator and a first and a second logic operator disposed~~ in an entry and an output each at different terminations of the data bus, ~~said logic operators respectively, and producing at least respectively a first and a second result, respectively, the means for checking the integrity further comprising a logic comparator for comparing said first and second result, compared together by said logic comparator and~~ for verifying said specific condition for the integrity by checking ~~when there is an equality between said first and second results~~.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 20, wherein the disabling of the processing of said sensitive information comprises the disabling of the processing device ~~[[is]]~~ performed by executing a microprogrammed instruction.

27. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 26, wherein said microprogrammed instruction induces the following steps:

- writing a piece of disable data into a non volatile location of the storage device;
- and
- disabling the processing device.

28. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 27, wherein said microprogrammed instruction further comprising comprises the reading by the processing device at said non volatile location of the storage device upon power up of said module, before disabling the processing device if a value read at this location does not match.

29. (Currently Amended) A security module comprising an electronic circuit having a monolithic structure and comprising an information processing device, an information storage device communicating with said processing device via a data bus, the processing device selecting sensitive information data extracted from the storage device in order to process them, the security module further comprising means for checking the integrity of information being either a table contained in the processing device or a plurality of software program instructions of the storage device or a specific hardware circuit, wherein said means for checking the integrity verifies a specific condition for integrity by verifying concerning a datum of said sensitive information, transferred transmitted on the data bus is verified, by said processing

~~device or by said means for checking the integrity of information, by executing a logic operation on all bits of said datum which is transmitted on said bus and the security module further comprising means for disabling the processing of said sensitive information by the processing device when said specific condition for integrity is not satisfied.~~

30. (Currently Amended) The security module according to claim 29, wherein the datum transferred on the data bus is an operation code datum executed by the processing device ~~execute instruction data corresponding to operation codes corresponding to an instruction extracted from said [[a]] table, defined during the building of the module, wherein the table comprises comprising~~ at least a forbidden instruction, and wherein said specific condition for integrity is not satisfied when said processing device processes said [[a]] forbidden instruction.

31. (Currently Amended) The security module according to claim 30, wherein at least [[an]] instructions [[data]] of said table corresponding to said operation code datum constituted by bits all ~~whose all bits are equal~~ to a same binary value are forbidden instructions of said table.

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Currently Amended) The security module according to claim 29, wherein said means for disabling the processing of said sensitive information ~~[[device]]~~ comprises means for irreversibly writing at least one indicator with an initial valid state in a non reversible modified invalid state, and means for reading said indicator during the next power-up of the module and disabling the processing device if an invalid state of said indicator is read.

34. (Currently Amended) The security module according to claim 29, wherein said means for checking the integrity of information comprises at least a first and a second ~~[[two]]~~ parity generator ~~[[each]]~~ respectively disposed in an entry and an output at ~~terminations of the data bus, and at least one a~~ comparator whose inputs are connected to ~~[[an]]~~ outputs of said first and second parity generators~~[[,]]~~ for verifying to verify said specific condition for integrity when said first and second parity generators produce identical outputs, and to set by setting an output of said comparator linked to an interrupt input of ~~[[said]]~~ the processing device.

35. (Currently Amended) The security module according to claim 34, wherein said outputs of ~~both~~ said first and second parity generators ~~[[is]]~~ are set opposite according to a function of time.

36. (Currently Amended) The security module according to claim 34, wherein said outputs of ~~both~~ said first and second parity generators ~~[[is]]~~ are set opposite randomly.

37. (Previously Presented) The security module according to claim 33, wherein said irreversibly writing of said indicator is performed by executing a microprogrammed instruction.

38. (Previously Presented) The security module according to claim 29, wherein said security module is a microcircuit card.

39. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 23, wherein ~~both~~ said first and second logic operators are parity generators each having two logic opposite outputs and one logic selection input that determines ~~the one~~ which of said ~~both~~ two logic opposite outputs ~~[[which]]~~ is input~~[[ted]]~~ in the comparator.

40. (New) The method according to claim 39, wherein said logic selection input of the comparators is set to a calculation data whose value varies as a function of time.

41. (New) The method according to claim 39, wherein said logic selection input of the comparators is set to a calculation data whose value varies randomly.

42. (New) The method according to claim 20, wherein when determining of a specific condition for the integrity of said information, at least two software instructions of the storage means are executed by processing means for determining said specific condition.

43. (New) The method according to claim 20, wherein when determining of a specific condition for the integrity of said information, the means for checking integrity of information comprise a specific hardware circuit for checking integrity of information in entry of the data bus and at output of the data bus.

44. (New) The security module according to claim 29, wherein the means for checking the integrity comprise at least two software instructions executed by the processing means for verifying said specific condition for integrity.

45. (New) The security module according to claim 29, wherein the means for checking the integrity comprise a specific hardware circuit for checking integrity of information in entry of the data bus and at output of the data bus for verifying said specific condition for integrity.